

July 19, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Women's Prison's Annual Children's Camp kicked off an Inaugural Big Wheel Race. The winner was awarded a Superman jersey as she drank her celebratory milk. The camp theme was Justice League. Both days involved a variety of events and competition for the mothers and children. Included were prizes, breakfast, lunch and a sack dinner to go for the children. There were a total of 52 mothers and 87 children who participated. (see photo right)



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility kicked off this year's donations of fresh produce to the Central Noble Food Pantry. Ten flats of vegetables along with fresh lettuce, pickles, cucumbers and sweet peppers were delivered to the food pantry. These donations give the food pantry clients the opportunity to start their own gardens. Chain O'Lakes will continue to make weekly donations of fresh produce throughout the growing season. This is the third year Chain O' Lakes has been donating fresh produce to the Central Noble Food Pantry. (see photo left)



Offender's from the New Castle Correctional Facility PLUS unit entered three quilts in the Henry County 4-H Fair and received two First Place & one Second Place Ribbons. The next stop will be the Indiana State Fair with a special quilt just for that event.

An offender work crew from Westville Correctional Facility's Level 1 unit is helping to beautify the City of Gary. The off grounds work crew has been tasked with tearing down abandoned houses and cleaning up vacant lots in an effort to provide direct, positive benefits to the local community.

Volunteers and their positive impact on the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS program is the focus of a documentary. Crews with Ethics Daily plan to complete the program for airing in 2014. The Wabash PLUS quilting program will also be showcased in the show, emphasizing positive community service.

Two staff members from Plainfield Correctional Facility received a special visit from Governor Mike Pence. Governor Pence along with IDOC Commission Bruce Lemmon and State Personnel Director Anita Samuel recognized Physical Plant Stores Clerk Marva Wickware and PEN Products Plant Foreman Ed Spotts for their utilization of the Castlight Health website. Through a contest on the Castlight website, Marva won an iPad, and Ed won a FitBit. Castlight Health is a healthcare transparency tool being offender to state employees used to assist individuals in making smart choices in their health care costs. (see photo right)



Employees from the Indiana State Prison held a successful blood drive for the American Red Cross. Seventy-five potential lives were saved due to the continued support of the staff at the Indiana State Prison.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) offenders were treated to a performance by Tanya Crevier and her two nephews Isaiah and Caleb Crevier, showing off their basketball and unicycle talents. Tanya is billed as the 'world's finest female basketball handler, performing her ball-handling routines at school assemblies, camps, churches and during halftime of many college and pro games. Crevier has also performed in more than 1,000 prisons in her 33-year career. Jack Brady, a MCF volunteer/mentor, presented Crevier with a plaque commemorating her 1,000th visit into a prison. Crevier has visited Miami at least two times in the past, but this is the first time she brought her nephews. Isaiah and Jacob Crevier perform with their family all over the world and were recently on "America's Got Talent".

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility 40 Assets Group held its first ever Gift Giving Community Service event. The students from the 40 Assets group organized a picnic for all students in the facility. During the picnic the 40 Assets students presented information on the group, prepared the picnic, demonstrated their public speaking skills and provided the gift giving. One student from the group was quoted as saying, "I liked how many positive aspects came out of the experience."

Members of the Pendleton Correctional Facility K-9 Unit provided a demonstration at Anderson University in conjunction with the Indiana State Police "Respect for Law Camp". The camp was for students entering the 5th and 6th grades. The camp provides these students with a close up look at law enforcement.

The Westville Correctional Facility Suicide Companion Training class was presented to 20 new PLUS unit trainees and as a required refresher course for 27 current Suicide Watch Companions. Soon they will be on the front lines, potentially making the difference between life and death. They certainly have our trust, admiration, and gratitude.

The Honor Guard from the Indiana State Prison presented the Colors at the Patriotic Program at Millennium Plaza in Michigan City. This was a wonderful time for our community to come together and celebrate those who serve and have fought for our county.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Employee Appreciation Committee conducted a "Back to School Fair" for the children and grandchildren of employees and contractual staff. One hundred twenty Pre-K through college-age children were provided with free backpacks and school supplies. Activities included a bounce house, balloon animals, a cookout, a variety of prizes, and games provided by the YMCA.